

Message Text

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TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE
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USCINCEUR
USLOSACLANT
USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 071624

HOLD FOR OPENING OF BUSINESS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE 1977

REF: A) USNATO 1743 DTG 262046Z MAR 77
-- B) USNATO 1609 DTG 221330Z MAR 77
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1. WE SUPPORT APPROACH PROPOSED BY MISSION IN REFTELS
SUBJECT TO FOLLOWING COMMENTS.
2. PARA 12, REF B, PENULTIMATE LINE: SUGGEST THE WORD
"THE" BE DELETED TO CONFORM WITH RELATED PHRASEOLOGY IN
PARA 21.

3. WE AGREE PARA 30 SHOULD BE DELETED. IF THIS IS NOT FEASIBLE, THE LAST SENTENCE OF PARA 30 SHOULD BE DELETED. MISSION MAY BRACKET IF REQUIRED.

4. WITH REGARD TO SECTION VIII, "PRIORITIES FOR DEFENSE PLANNING," AND RELATED GUIDANCE (SECTION 9), IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO INCLUDE LANGUAGE INDICATING THAT HIGHEST PRIORITY SHOULD BE APPLIED ONLY TO A RESTRICTED NUMBER OF PROPOSALS. WE WOULD NOT WISH TO SET AN ARBITRARY FRACTION.

5. ON TRADE-OFFS, WE FIND LANGUAGE OF PARA 48, REF B, ABOUT RIGHT. OUR THINKING IS THAT TRADE-OFFS MAY HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE NATION CONCERNED, ONCE IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED BY THAT NATION THAT NATIONAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES WILL NOT SUPPORT THE FORCE PROPOSALS.

6. MISSION SHOULD TAKE A FIRM POSITION IN SUPPORT OF INCLUSION OF A SUBSECTION ON GUIDANCE TO THE DPC IN PERMANENT SESSION, IN THEIR ROLE AS MANAGING THE NATO DEFENSE EFFORT, INCLUDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FORCE GOALS.

7. WE ALSO SEE NEED FOR A PARAGRAPH, PROBABLY IN RESOURCES SECTION IN MANNER SIMILAR TO THAT IN MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE 75, STRESSING NEED FOR CLOSE CIVIL-MILITARY COOPERATION IN PROVIDING CIVIL ASSISTANCE TO CONFIDENTIAL

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MILITARY OPERATIONS. THE REFERENCE TO CIVIL SUPPORT IN THE CONTEXT OF REINFORCEMENTS (PARA 27) IS HELPFUL, BUT IT DOES NOT ADEQUATELY REFLECT THE TOTAL SUPPORT FROM THE CIVIL SECTOR WHICH SHOULD BE AVAILABLE IN AN EMERGENCY.

8. THREE PER CENT FIGURE (PARA 3, REF A) IS A USEFUL STARTING POINT FOR REAL INCREASES. WE ARE HOPEFUL OTHER ALLIES CAN AGREE.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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